10. Nationwide surveillance is continuing. More than 1,43,000 samples have been tested at High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL), Bhopal since February, 2006.

11. Testing for Avian Influenza has also been started at Regional Level *viz.*, Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories, Kolkata, Bangalore, Pune and Jalandhar. So far about 37,000 samples have been tested in the regional laboratories.

12. The training of veterinary personnel in preparedness, control and containment is continuing.

13. A National Workshop on Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza was organized at Pune during May, 2007 and recently a Regional Workshop of the North-Eastern States (Sikkim, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and West Bengal) was organized at Kolkata by Government of India from 26-28th July, 2007.

General Body Election of CGECCS Ltd.

34. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Board of Directors, Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar) conducted election to the general body/delegates in the year 1999 for a period of three years;

(b) whether the election to the general body/delegates was conducted after eight years in February, 2007; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not conducting the election in 2002 itself and the action Government propose to take against the Central Registrar (Department of Cooperation) and BOD, Kendriya Bhandar for violating the provision of MSCS Act, 2002 and the bye-laws of Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The election of the delegates of Representative General Body of a Multi-State Cooperative Society is the responsibility of the Board of Directors of the society. *Vide* amended bye-law no. 14 as approved by the general body,and registered on 9th May 2003, the term of the delegates to the general body was fixed for a period of 5 years. In the meantime, there was a dispute regarding membership of the Kendriya Bhandar agitated *vide* writ petition no.8983-84 of 2005 before the Delhi High Court. On the direction of the High Court of Delhi in the above writ petition, the Central Registrar decided the matter of membership *vide* order dated 8th December, 2006. The election to the delegates of general body have since been held in February, 2007. Further Returning Officer is the competent authority to decide the issue of disqualification of the candidates under the provisions of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 if election is not conducted in time. Also infirmity regarding conduct of election can be agitated as an election dispute under section 84(2)(c) of the Act. Therefore, the question of any action against the Central Registrar does not arise.